

Neighbors Celebrate the Lunar New Year



(Top) Professor John Choy and colleagues performed traditional Chinese music as part of the Lunar New Year celebration. (Left) A colorful "Ribbon Dance" added excitement to the day's festivities.

Mayor Willie Brown was special guest at Visitation Valley's Lunar New Year Community Celebration on Feb. 25 which featured cultural performances and cuisine. Dancers from both Visitation Valley Elementary School and Family School entertained the capacity audience, which also witnessed the S.F. Police Department Lion Dance Team in action. Mayor Brown presented local ESL instructor with a community award for her many efforts in helping the neighborhood.

Survey Finds More Than 400,000 Former Welfare Recipients Were Employed with Welfare to Work

More than 410,000 welfare recipients have moved from welfare to work since May 1997 after being hired by the Business Partners of the Welfare to Work Partnership (WWP), according to the results of the latest Wirthlin Worldwide Welfare to Work Survey.

The Wirthlin Survey also showed the mentoring programs and partnerships with community based organizations are the two greatest drivers of promotion among welfare recipients.

Vice President Al Gore released the results of the Wirthlin Survey Mar. 1 at Bill Graham Civic Auditorium where 500 Bay Area businesses joined to discuss welfare to work initiatives and job retention at the Bay Area Welfare to Work Conference, sponsored by the Welfare to Work Partnership. The conference brought together many business leaders from around the region who are committed to hiring former welfare recipients.

Billions Were Lost During State's 1990 Census Undercount

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) on Mar. 2 expressed concern that due to an undercount in the 1990 census, California lost \$2.2 billion in population based formula grants, according to a General Accounting Office (GAO) estimate.

"We are talking about initiatives like School Lunch, Head Start, WIC (Women Infants Children) and Title I not getting the full funding needed to meet the demands in our community," explained Pelosi. "It is an outrage to think that children are being short-changed because of an incorrect headcount."

California was hurt most of any state by the undercount, losing \$2,660 for each person missed. The census Bureau reports that people of Hispanic origin accounted for nearly half of those missed in the state (395,000 out of 835,000).

San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and WWP President and CEO Eli Segal joined Vice President Gore to talk about the future of welfare to work and the importance of partnerships between businesses, service providers and government.

"The secret to a successful welfare to work program is partnerships," said Mayor Brown. "Business, community-based organizations and local and state government all working together to move people from lives of dependence to lives of independence."

The conference reinforced the results of the Wirthlin Survey that showed 48 percent of companies are turning to non-profit, community-based organizations to find candidates to hire. That number is up from 25 percent in 1998.

This is the third Welfare to Work Survey by Wirthlin Worldwide, designed to statistically measure the effects of welfare reform in the business community. In February 1998, Wirthlin's first Welfare to Work Survey revealed that the Partnership's 3,200 business partners hired 135,000 former welfare recipients in 1997.

"This survey shows conclusively that our Business Partners are doing more than just signing their names to a form--they are hiring, retaining, training and promoting welfare recipients," said Segal. "But there is still much work to be done. Two years ago, welfare to work was just a slogan. Today the results of the survey show that welfare to work is on its way to becoming a reality throughout America."

In fact, the survey showed that former welfare recipients across the country are landing good jobs with full health care benefits and mentoring, but child care and transportation obstacles are still at the forefront. According to the survey:

- *72 percent of these companies offer health care benefits.
 - *53 percent offer mentoring services;
 - *23 percent offer transportation subsidies;
 - *12 percent offer child care.
- The Partnership was launched in May 1997 with just five companies: Burger King, Monsanto, Sprint, United and UPS. At its one year anniversary, it had 5,000 Business Partners and today, the Partnership has more than 10,000 Business Partners, all dedicated to hiring and retaining former welfare recipients.
- The survey was conducted by Wirthlin Worldwide, an international public opinion research and consulting firm. Wirthlin surveyed a random sample of 500 businesses--broken down by business size to represent the Partnership's significant small business membership.
- Other interesting facts revealed in the survey include:
- *Sixty-seven percent of the Partnership's businesses still believe they are facing a labor shortage in either their company or industry. Partnership companies expect to hire more recipients in 1999, pledging to hire a mean of 70.2 employees per company from the welfare rolls in 1999.
 - *More than eight out of ten (82 percent) executives who have hired former welfare recipients found that their new hires are "good, productive employees." This number continues to improve. It is up 3 percent from Wirthlin's second survey in August 1998 and 6 percent from the first survey in February 1998.
 - *Companies say welfare to work programs cost no extra money and in some cases save a company money. Sixty-five percent of businesses say they run successful welfare to work programs without increasing their costs while 16 percent of the compa-

Legislation Would Keep Open State's Poison Control System

Assemblymember Kevin Shelley (D-San Francisco/San Mateo) recently introduced legislation to enable California's Poison Control System (CPCS) to continue to keep its doors open.

Last year in California alone, nearly 300,000 calls were made to Poison Control from people asking for help. Research conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and its National Center for Disease Control has concluded for every \$1 spent on poison centers and poison control, \$7 are saved in medical costs.

"California's Poison Control System saves not only lives, but also dollars and we need to do what we can to see that they keep their doors

open," said Shelley.

CPCS began operating in 1997 under the direction of the UC San Francisco School of Pharmacy. Consolidating this state's poison control centers has served to provide a seamless delivery system to callers in need throughout the state.

"Poison Control is able to effectively manage 80 percent of the calls that they get at the caller's home," explained Shelley. "This saves money for both the caller and the caller's health plan."

CPCS has four sites around California equipped with experts on poisoning. They are on call 24 hours a day to respond to any poisoning emergency or questions callers may have.

S.F. Students Display Art for PTA Reflections Contest at Main Library

San Francisco Public Library and the Parent-Teacher Association are sponsoring a major exhibit and opening for the annual PTA Reflections fine arts contest and program. More than 100 entries in four media categories: music, literature, photography, and visual arts created by students from 13 City schools will be displayed Apr. 10 at the Main Library's Jewett Gallery, located on the lower level.

The opening program for the exhibit, which runs through May 30, is slated for Saturday, Apr. 10 at 1 p.m.

in the Koret Auditorium on the library's lower level. A one-hour reception will follow at 2 p.m. in the adjacent Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room. All programs at the Main Library are free, everyone is invited and welcome.

Reflections is a national fine arts program and contest hosted by the San Francisco Unified School District by the Second District PTA. Each year, students 5-18 select the theme for the program. This year's theme is "Suddenly you turn around and..."

Cultural Celebration at VVES



Ms. Zamora and Ms. Jeung's Kindergarten children performed the "Hoochie Coochie Man."



"Mowtown Revue" by the Enterprise Community-funded Leadership Club After School Program, coordinated by Mr. Edwards and Ms. Marshall.



Another performance by students of the Leadership Club was Mrs. Hau's "Chinese Fan Dance."

Visitation Valley Elementary School (VVES) celebrated Black History Month and the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit on Feb. 19 with a multicultural assembly in the school's auditorium. More than 40 parents and guardians joined VVES students and teachers in this annual event.

Taking Care of Our Children

By Mayor Willie L. Brown

The neighborhood newspapers have given me many opportunities to address the various youth programs offered through the City. I have written to you about the Youth Empowerment conference, the Youth Employment for the Summer program and Youthworks. All of these innovative programs have increased youth employment and involvement by securing relationships between city departments and community-wide nonprofits that continue to make San Francisco safer and more user-friendly.

Just last week, yet another program was unveiled that promises to increase services for our youth. The Adopt-A-Child-Care-Center partnership joins the department of Children, Youth and Their Families, Christmas in April, and several construction companies who will work together to renovate more than 20 local nonprofit child-care centers.

The availability of child-care slots in safe and healthy environments is a concern to every parent in the city, but it is also a pressingly important one to people who are moving from welfare to work. Funding sources for child-care generally fail to adequately meet the strict operating costs for high-quality care and there is often

little to no funding for improving already existing facilities.

By renovating existing child-care centers around the city, the Adopt-A-Child-Care-Center partnership will create more than 300 new slots and maintain nearly 1,000 already existing slots. Many of these child-care centers are located in historically under-served neighborhoods of San Francisco including Chinatown, Western Addition, Mission Dolores, Bayview-Hunters point, Visitacion Valley, Park Merced, and the Sunset district.

Through this current child-care initiative, the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families has enlisted the help of several companies, all of who have agreed to generously donate labor and materials to complete the front-end technical work ranging from major construction to room expansions. Christmas in April, a nonprofit organization dedicated to renovating community facilities and low-income residential homes, will mobilize volunteers to complete selected projects such as painting, landscaping, constructing storage units, space planning, and mural designing and painting. Construction on various

sites began in February and in some cases construction will continue through September 1999.

The Adopt-A-Child-Care-Center program is part of an ongoing effort by the Mayor's Starting Points Initiative to increase high-quality child-care for working families. It is also part of a multifaceted approach on the part of the City and its partners to increase educational, recreational, safe-space, and health programs for the City's youth. Over the last year, San Francisco has dedicated \$360 million in federal, state and local funds to children and youth programs. The City's budget, for example, included the following monetary allocations:

- *\$28 million for prevention programs including:
- *\$22 million for child-care initiatives;
- *\$6 million for expanded youth opportunities;
- *\$800,000 for child-care facility improvements, training for child-care providers, and additional evening and weekend service.
- *\$620,000 in health and safety programs
- *1\$ million to increase youth employment and to improve services at community centers.

These moneys manifest themselves in collaborative and inventive programs such as the Beacon Centers which are school-based extended-hour sites that offer year-round after-school youth programs in leadership, support learning, and arts and recreation. The five existing Beacon Centers present another example of a collaborative effort. Beacon sites work with 52 community-based organizations, six City departments, and 15 private foundations, as well as the Mayor's Office. Thanks to the 1998-99 fiscal year budget, three new Beacon Centers will soon open their doors.

As parents, we all have a personal interest in providing safe and nurturing spaces for our children. As a community, we have a vested interest in providing stimulating and educa-

tional environments for our youth--in them lies the future of our city. For the first time ever, the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families has issued a comprehensive budget publication that documents the many ways that the Department implements children and youth-oriented programs across agencies, departments, and traditional budget boundaries. The publication provides details of specific neighborhoods as well as programs. For more information in the Department and the publication, visit the DOCYF web site at www.mocyf.org.

CITY SERVICES

ABANDONED CARS.....	781-JUNK
ANIMAL CONTROL (stray, abused, dangerous animals).....	554-6364
BUS SHELTER DAMAGE.....	882-4949
CHILD COUNSELING SERVICES (Huckleberry House).....	621-2929
CITY TREES (trimming) (Ben Andres, supervisor. 695-2177).....	695-2162
COMMUNITY BOARDS (dispute resolution).....	863-6100
CRIME-STOPPERS (anonymous crime tip line).....	1-800-2GIVEINFO
DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE (WOMAN Inc.).....	864-4722
DPW (street trash)..... (Kevin Flynn, supervisor) 695-2017 (days) 895-2020 (nits/wknd)	
DPW CONTACT (Marcia deVaughn, Deputy Director of Operations).....	965-2017
EMERGENCY SERVICES (be prepared to provide location and complete descriptions). 9-1-1	
EMERGENCY SERVICES (non-published number for cell-phone particularly).....	553-8090
GARBAGE SERVICE COMPLAINTS.....	255-3610
GRAFFITI CLEANUP (DPW).....	241-WASH
GRAFFITI SUSPECT INFORMATION (leave message for Officer Ed Collins).....	553-1603
INGLESIDE STATION CONTACTS	
Day watch lieutenants (Lt. Mike Pera/Lt. Dave Shinn).....	553-1603
Night watch lieutenants (Lt. Tony Fotinos/Lt. Jim Speros).....	553-1603
Captain Rick Bruce/Sgt. Don Sloan	553-1602
Station anonymous TIP line.....	333-3433
Graffiti coordinator (daytime) Officer Ed Collins.....	553-1603
Graffiti coordinator (nighttime) Sgt. Eric Quema	553-1603
Graffiti paint-over coordinator PSA Bill Segale.....	553-1603
Leland Avenue Resource Center (Officers Simon Chan and Mary Morentz).....	585-2675
Station permits (Officer Jerry Sarrin).....	553-1603
Traffic problems and radar trailer (Officer John Mulkern).....	553-1603
Sunnydale Resource Center (Officers Bud Massey and Gordon Horn).....	586-7572
MAYOR'S OFFICE (Bevan Duffy, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, 554-6110).....	
McATEER HIGH SCHOOL ANONYMOUS CRIME TIP LINE.....	437-4986
NARCOTICS TIP LINE (anonymous).....	1-800-CRACKIT
PARKING AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS (DPT).....	553-1200
PARKING AND TRAFFIC CONTACT (Tony Novello).....	553-7993
POLICE (non-emergency).....	553-0123
POTHOLE REPAIR	695-2100
SAFE (forming neighborhood watch groups).....	673-SAFE
STREET LIGHTING CITY (out of order) (Dee Lemon, supervisor).....	554-0730
STREET LIGHTING PG&E (wood poles).....	693-3201
SUNNYDALE RESOURCE CENTER.....	586-7572
TRAFFIC SIGNALS (out of order).....	550-2736
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING (to request new traffic control sign/device) Bond Yee.....	554-2300
Captain Rick Bruce,	
Ingleside Police Station, 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane, San Francisco, CA 94112, 553-1602	
Email address: Ingleside@juno.com website: www.SwiftSite.com/Ingleside_Station	

Moving Off the Curb: Beyond Bottles, Cans and Paper

by David Assmann, Senior Administrator San Francisco Recycling Program

Do you think of recycling when you replace your flashlight batteries, paint your home, or change the oil in your car? There's much more to recycling than putting bottles, cans and paper in your curbside bins. You can take almost all of your household hazardous waste items to the facility near 3Com (see below). However, if you have only motor oil, latex paint or batteries, there are several locations in different neighborhoods where it is more convenient to drop them off than driving all the way across town.

Used Motor Oil

There are more than 50 gas stations and auto parts stores in San Francisco where residents can drop off their motor oil. To find a drop-off location in your neighborhood, please call 544-4333. Oil is a non-renewable resource that can easily be recycled and reused many times. Oil dumped in the street will cause pollution if it washes into the ocean and bay.

Latex Paint

If you have leftover latex paint, give it to someone who will use it or take it to one of the City's latex drop off sites for recycling. There are nine sites in the City. To find the one closest to you, please call the Hazardous Waste hotline at 554-4333. These stores only accept latex paint for recycling. For free recycled latex paint, please call 330-1406.

Oil Based Paint

If you have leftover oil based paint, there's only one place to recycle it—see "Most Household Chemicals" below. There are very few times when you need to use oil base paint, and there are many advantages to using latex paint. The primary advantage is that latex is much easier to clean out of your brushes and other tools (just scrap out the paint and rinse them in the sink). Another im-

portant advantage is that it doesn't expose you, your family or the environment to as many pollution-causing vapors.

Alkaline Batteries

All batteries contain toxic metals. In order to keep these materials from landfills, take them to one of the following recycling sites: any Cole Hardware, Rainbow Grocery, or the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility.

Rechargeable Batteries

Rechargeable batteries last longer and are less expensive than single use alkaline batteries. You can save money too—about \$200 a year by using rechargeables instead of alkalines in a single cassette player (that's if you listen use it for about two hours a day). Nickel-cadmium batteries (Ni-Cads) that no longer work can be taken to any Radio Shack, Circuit City, Cole Hardware. They are also accepted at North Point Camera, Bridge Radio Communications, Auto Symphony, Camera Express, Cal-Marine Electronics, Cameras and More, Top Line Cameras, Stanley's TV, California Electric Service and Viking Tool Repair.

Car Batteries can be taken to several battery recycling companies in San Francisco; look in the Yellow Pages under "Batteries." Many of them will even pay you \$1.00 for each car battery. You can also ask your local auto shops if they will take your used auto batteries.

Most Household Chemicals from your home can be taken to the City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility (located at Sanitary Fill Company on the other side of the freeway from 3Com Park). This includes oil based paint, pesticides, cleaning chemicals, etc. Most of the wastes received at the facility are recycled. Those that can't be recycled are sent to special hazardous waste treatment or disposal facilities. The household facility is open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Before driving to the facility call 415-554-4333. For information on what materials are accepted, instructions on transportation, and directions. The City also offers a free pick up service for senior citizens and people who are disabled. To make an appointment to have your waste picked up, you can call Safety Kleen at 1-800-897-3088.

Free Information

The best option for hazardous waste, however, is to reduce the amount of hazardous materials you use in the first place. For free publications and information about less toxic materials used in gardening, cleaning, and remodeling, call the Hazardous Waste hotline at 554-4333.

CURBSIDE OIL RECYCLING

is coming to your neighborhood!



You will soon be able to place your used motor oil and oil filter on the curb next to your other recyclables.

Watch for our full-color brochure in your mail announcing the start date.

This pilot project is only being offered in certain neighborhoods. To find a drop-off location in your neighborhood, please call 554-4333.



Hazardous Waste Management Program
www.sfhazwaste.org
554-4333



RECYCLE USED OIL



GRAPEVINE
VISITACION VALLEY

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New Medical Breakthrough for Obesity and Weight Management

The Family Solution, Inc., an Idaho based company that features herbal pharmaceuticals exclusively, has announced the debut of two new scientific dietary formulations. These formulations, which have had tremendous results in the treatment of obesity, are the result of 40 years of medical research and clinical evaluations.

Studies have indicated that obesity is really a symptom of incomplete digestion and toxification of the body. The greatest contributing factor is protein combining with sugars resulting in stored fat. The latest medical theory suggests that adjusting the body's digestive process, to prohibit sugars and proteins from combining, tremendously enhance weight loss.

The dietary formulations in the spotlight are known as *The Enzyme Solution* and *LiteNing 4*. They have achieved tremendous success in treating obesity. The combination of these two formulations is a completely different approach to weight loss.

Research evaluations have shown that these formulations will replenish the level of live enzymes in the body, reduce toxins, inhibit sugar and fat absorption, accelerate metabolism, maintain lean muscle tissue and decrease sugar cravings. In addition to their success in treating obesity, blood tests have shown that these two formulas were able to boost the immune system by increasing T-cells by up to 1400 percent and white blood cells up to 700 percent.

In the United States, hundreds of doctors have begun to utilize the formulations and are endorsing the theory that there is an important link between proper digestion and obesity. Larry Coker, who has maintained a 581 pound weight loss for over 11 years, stated, "I would not have been so overweight if these products had been available to me. This will be a miracle for some very desperate people. Because of using these formulas, managing my weight has not been an issue."

The product's ability to increase lean muscle tissue was discovered by Tom Manno, 41, a renowned body builder who holds 10 national titles and 26 world records for weight lifting. He is the current Guinness record holder as "The Strongest Man Over Age 40." Tom competes in the steroid-free federation, Natural Athletes Strength Association (NASA).

While training, Tom tested the prototype of the enzyme formulation. He was amazed by the results. He was able to increase his weight lifting ability by 200 pounds over three years. Tom said, "I know that the enzyme formulation was a crucial factor to increasing my strength. Since lean muscle burns fat more effectively, it will be a great benefit to anyone trying to lose weight, as well as someone who is trying to increase his or her own strength."

The Enzyme Solution and *LiteNing 4* are finally available to the public for the first time. To request more information, you can contact The Family Solution, 2675 W Main, Boise, Idaho, 83702. Telephone (toll-free) is 877-336-3003.

McLaren Park a Site for Sore Eyes

by Jeanne Alexander
Neighborhood Park Council

It was a rancho in 1840. Today it's McLaren Park, whose sweeping views of the city and San Francisco Bay border 318 acres in Visitacion Valley. And whose development as both a neighborhood recreation facility and a wooded retreat has been making steady but piecemeal progress since the park was established in 1926. However, its history goes back almost 100 years before that.

When California was declared "a free and sovereign state" within the Mexican republic, Governor Juan Batista Alvarado granted the rancho now known as McLaren Park to the local government in 1840. Subdivision plans for the land grant were drawn up between 1868 and 1904, and were given a boost in 1905 when Daniel Burnham, a renowned architect and city planner was brought in to work with the Association for the Improvement and Adornment of San Francisco. His Burnham Plan recommended that the hilltops where McLaren and Bayview Parks are now located, be reserved for parks. Although the fire and earthquake of 1906 postponed any action, the idea survived.

The first proposal for the park came in 1926 when the Board of Supervisors voted to acquire 550 acres of the McLaren Park site for park use. A bond issue to fund the land acquisition was defeated in 1928, so the Board, undaunted, reduced the size of its proposed acquisition and began to purchase land. The first construction in the park was a view drive built by the WPA (Works Progress Administration) in the early '30s and it set the stage for John McLaren to dedicate his eponymous park in a flag-raising ceremony in 1934.

Parks and planting were John McLaren's passion. Born in Scotland in 1846, he studied horticulture in Edinburgh's Royal Botanical Gardens and came to California in 1872 where he worked as a lands-



John McLaren, second from left, hoists the flag presented by the California Works Administration in 1934 to dedicate McLaren Park. -photo courtesy of Greg Gaar

cape gardener on George Howard's vast estate in San Mateo and Leland Stanford's ranch in Palo Alto. He lived by his father's admonition: "Me boy, if you have nothing to do, go plant a tree and it'll grow while ye sleep." McLaren loved trees and hated buildings, trolley cars, "keep off the grass" signs and statues. Some of his most beautiful groves were planted to hide the statues of famous men that the city fathers had placed in the park.

In 1887, McLaren became superintendent of Golden Gate Park, the city's largest park and, nearly 50 years later, he dedicated McLaren Park, the city's second largest park. The legacy he left when he died in 1943 at age 97, will endure with the trees he planted.

After its 318-acre boundary set by the Board of Supervisors in 1946, McLaren Park's building program got underway in 1958 with Coffman Pool, near the Herz Playground. A 1959 park master plan calling for additional recreational facilities showed the critical need for infrastructure and set the city's wheels turning. The 1960's saw the construction of park roads and playgrounds-- Mansell Street, Visitacion Avenue, Brazil and Persia Avenues, and John F Shelley Drive; Louis Sutter and Herz Playgrounds. Drain-

age structures and a water distribution system were installed. The '70s and early '80s brought the tennis courts, the amphitheater, the Mansfield-Burrows Playground and the Wilde Overlook area and viewing tower. New trails, pathways, stairs, picnic areas, and community gardens enriched the landscape.

Master planning for the park, begun in 1976, was followed by updates in 1983, 1988, and 1996. In March of 1997 Rec and Park adopted the final John McLaren Park Master Plan which calls for development, phased over five-to-ten years and aimed, initially, at providing "special interest" activities. A \$2.4 million bond issue was passed by voters in 1987 for major improvements to McLaren Park.

Working closely with Rec and Park staff on a list of park improvements are the Friends of McLaren Park. They are part of the Neighborhood Parks Council, a coalition of activist parks groups who work to rejuvenate their local parks. Friends' president Franco Mancini is pleased with his group's progress on a number of projects.

Construction is currently underway on the long-awaited restoration of the amphitheater. The contract, awarded last November, stipulates that the work will be completed in

four months, weather permitting. Construction of the new restrooms is "well along;" the foundation has been poured for disabled accessibility ramps, and a resurfaced lot provides handicapped parking space. The amphitheater's opening performance is tentatively scheduled for fall.

The public restroom at Oxford and Bacon Streets is completely refurbished and has now reopened.

The two-to-three-acre fennel grove abutting the Crocker Amazon Playground will be bulldozed and the ground covered with redwood bark. Removing the aggressively growing fennel will protect the adjacent native plant areas from further erosion and will also give back to walkers the overgrown jogging trails that the fennel has blocked off.

The Friends have reached an agreement with Rec and Park to gate off and close, at night, a troublesome, crime-ridden stretch of Brazil Street which is used as an industrial dump.

Making judicious use of what Mancini calls "the nag tactic," the Friends have also prevailed on Rec and Park to drain and clean McNab Lake. "Deborah Lerner and her staff at Rec and Park, particularly Marvin Yee, have been very cooperative in helping us develop these projects," Mancini says.

Another supportive Rec and Park staffer is Keith Grier, the park's talented recreation director. Grier, who is also a member of Friends of McLaren Park, is enthusiastic about the completed restoration of the Recreation Center Clubhouse at Mansell and Sunnysdale Streets. It boasts a colorful new mural painted by neighborhood teens, depicting the park's flora and fauna, wildlife, and the area's diversity. The project was part of the imaginative "restoration as recreation" project that Grier has developed with Jane Ardito.

From rancho to recreational retreat, McLaren Park is clearly coming closer to fulfilling John McLaren's dream that people have "unspoiled alpine joy, even in the city."

Ingleside Station Police Report

If you see any of the following described wanted suspects (or vehicles), phone 9-1-1 and give a complete physical description to the police dispatcher, referring to the case numbers.

District Robberies

*On Feb. 19 at 4:25 p.m., a teenage boy was waiting for the bus at Bayshore and Blanken when three suspects approached him and forcefully took his personal property from him. The suspects ran away north on Bayshore and are described as: 1) black male, 17-20, 5'7", 190 wearing black beanie, black jacket with yellow lining and blue jeans; 2) black male, 16, 5'5", 130 wearing blue Dallas Cowboys jersey #21, black pants; 3) black male, 17, wearing Army camouflage jacket. Refer to case 990214391.

*On Feb. 20, at 4:38 a.m., a man was driving a friend home and had stopped his car near Cortland and Peralta Streets when he was approached by a man who pointed a silver semi-automatic handgun at him and demanded that he exit his car and leave the keys in it. The victim complied and the suspect fled in the victim's vehicle, a '93 Honda Del Sol, 2-door, red, California license 7THSIN. The suspect is described as a black male, 20-25, 6'6", 240, wearing a white and blue baseball cap, blue jean jacket and pants, black shoes. Refer to case 990216586.

*On Feb. 21 at 1:30 p.m., a man was walking on Chenery near Fairmount when he was approached by two suspects who punched him, knocking him to the ground. Both suspects then kicked the victim several times and he began to yell for the police. The suspects then ran to a waiting dark colored car and fled the scene. The suspects are described as: 1) black male, 6', 200, wearing a dark colored jacket; 2) black male, no further. Refer to case 990221982.

*On Feb. 21 at 10:33 p.m., a woman was walking home near Diamond and Chenery when a man approached her near 701 Chenery and pushed her to the ground. The man then stole her property and ran to a waiting vehicle, driven by a second suspect. The suspect is described as a black male, 30-40, 6'2", 168, thick mustache, wearing a dark-colored zip-up jacket with hood. The vehicle is described as a medium-size dark-colored vehicle driven by an unknown suspect. Refer to case 990222128.

*On Feb. 23 at 6:50 p.m., two teenage boys were leaving the 7-11 store on Bayshore Boulevard when they noticed they were being followed by five males. As the victims approached Raymond Street, the five

suspects ran up to them and one of the suspects demanded money as a second suspect began to choke the first victim. As the victim was taken to the ground, two of the additional suspects began to kick him in the face and rib areas. Two of the suspects then forced the second victim against a wall and began to punch him. The suspects stole property from both victims and then fled north on Bayshore on foot. The suspects are described as: 1) Samoan male, 18, 5'8", 190 curly hair, wearing a dark blue jersey; 2) black male, 18, 5'8", 150, wearing a black jacket with hood pulled over his head, dark pants; 3) black male, 18, 5'9", 160, wearing a hood over his head and dark clothing; 4) black male, 18, 5'8", 160, wearing a hood pulled over his head and dark clothing; 5) black male, 18, 5'9", 160 wearing a hood pulled over his head and dark clothing. Refer to case 990231743.

*On Feb. 25 at 4:18 p.m., an 80-year-old woman was walking slowly down Cambridge Street when she was approached by a female suspect who pushed her in an attempt to knock her down. The female suspect then went through the victim's shopping bags and removed her wallet prior to fleeing on foot. The suspect then joined a male suspect, and both ran away and got onto a bus on Silver Avenue. The suspects are described as 1) black female, 20s, 5'4", 135, braided hair, wearing a "puffy" coat and dark jean pants; 2) black male, 20-30, "fade" haircut, wearing a white T-shirt and blue pants. Refer to case 990242518.

Hot Prowl Burglary

*On Feb. 25 at 12:00 p.m., a woman was at home by herself on the 1000 block of Teresita when she heard someone walking down her hallway. The woman got up and saw two Asian male suspects walking to-

wards her. One of the suspects pushed the victim to the floor and covered her face. Both suspects then ransacked the home for approximately two hours, and then fled with several pieces of property. The suspects had gained entry by forcing open the rear door leading to the garage area of the house. The suspects are described as: 1) Asian male, 25-30, 5'7", 140, wearing Navy blue clothing; 2) Asian male, 25-30, 5'6", 140 wearing a white flannel shirt and white pants. Refer to case 990242518.

Residential Burglary with Suspicious Circumstances

*On Mar. 1 at 6:30 p.m., a woman arrived home on the 600 block of Miramar to find a man named Myoung Kook Kim in front of her home. Kim, who is also a roofing contractor who had done work for the victim, told her that he believed her roof was leaking so he broke into her house to check it out. The victim then entered her home and found that it had been ransacked. This same suspect was also wanted for a similar burglary that occurred a few weeks earlier. (The particulars of this second burglary were not known at the time of his arrest on Feb. 26.) An arrest warrant was prepared charging him with two counts of burglary. On Mar. 4, it was reported that Myoung Kook Kim was arrested and is now in custody.

Grapevine on the Net

Our ever-expanding website at <http://home.earthlink.net/~visvalley> contains news and features from each issue since July 1997, a summary of local news since 1986 and the history of Visitacion Valley.

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有講粵語工作人員

Taxpayer Advocates Work to Put Service First at the IRS

When Elayne Goldstein's telephone rings at the Internal Revenue Service, the call is usually from a taxpayer who has an unresolved tax problem. On this day, the caller was complaining about receiving a collection letter from the IRS and was expressing frustration with having made multiple contacts with different IRS employees about his problem—without a solution.

As far as Ms. Goldstein is concerned, the buck stops in her office. She is a taxpayer advocate at the IRS with the authority to make sure that the IRS takes all necessary actions to correctly and completely resolve a taxpayer's problem. "The most important aspect of being a taxpayer advocate is knowing that you can drop all other work and priorities to deal with that individual taxpayer who needs your attention at the moment," Ms. Goldstein says. Last year,

taxpayer advocates like Ms. Goldstein made sure that some 237,103 cases nationwide were effectively resolved.

Even though the IRS has had a Problem Resolution Program since 1977, recent tax legislation has given taxpayer advocates more independence from the IRS and more authority to cut through the "red tape." According to Ms. Goldstein, once she confirms that the taxpayer's problem meets criteria to be brought into the Problem Resolution Program, it is assigned to a caseworker within the IRS who is in the best position to resolve the matter. The caseworker is required to contact the taxpayer within seven days to acknowledge receipt of the case. In that contact, the caseworker is to provide his or her name and telephone number, clarify what the problem is, and provide the taxpayer with either an expected date of completion of the case or the date by which the caseworker will get back to the taxpayer with the status of the case.

Taxpayer advocacy at the IRS has

won strong support from IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti. Mr. Rossotti, a business manager by trade, has put the IRS on a path of improved customer service. He has been at the forefront of Problem Solving Days, where taxpayers who have unresolved problems can get one-on-one assistance from the IRS.

A provision in the recently enacted IRS Restructuring and Reform Act gives the taxpayer advocate greater authority to intercede on behalf of taxpayers who are experiencing a hardship. The taxpayer advocate must now consider such factors as the threat of adverse action from the IRS, whether there is a delay of more than 30 days in resolving taxpayer account problems, significant costs incurred by a taxpayer while waiting for relief from an IRS action, and irreparable injury to, or long-term adverse impact on, a taxpayer if relief is not granted, when making a determination of hardship.

According to Ms. Goldstein, the Problem Resolution Program is for those people whose problem remains unresolved after attempts to resolve the matter through traditional IRS contacts have been unsuccessful. Generally, most taxpayer problems can be resolved on the first contact by either calling or writing, or visiting an IRS office. A good rule of thumb before contacting the taxpayer advocate with a problem is if the taxpayer:

- *Has contacted the IRS on the same issue at least 30 days after an initial inquiry or complaint, or 60 days after the filing of an original or amended return or claim, or

- *Has received no response from the IRS by the date promised, including commitment dates on IRS forms, or

- *Believes that established systems have failed to resolve the problem.

Taxpayers need to be aware of the fact that the advocates do not have the authority to overturn the tax law or regulations. However, the taxpayer advocate does remain a strong ally of the public to help resolve those

seemingly unsolvable problems with the IRS. "The most satisfying part about being an advocate is seeing a customer satisfied with the work we do for them, regardless of whether the ultimate results of the case are in their favor or not," Ms. Goldstein says.

For the assistance of a taxpayer advocate, call toll-free at 1-877-777-4778. People who have access to TTY/TDD equipment may call 1-800-829-4059 and ask for Problem Resolution.

Tax Changes For 1998 Can Benefit Taxpayers

When filling out tax forms this year, take note of some of the changes that could make the difference between getting a refund and paying more taxes.

Depending on their income, people may be able to claim up to a \$400 credit for each qualifying child under age 17. New this year, the child tax credit could reduce the tax to zero, or even become a refundable credit for taxpayers with three or more qualifying children.

People can benefit from a number of educational incentives. The Hope credit lets people below certain income levels claim a credit for the first two years of post-secondary education. It's limited to \$1,500 per year for qualified tuition and expenses. The lifetime learning credit applies to qualified tuition and expenses for undergraduate, graduate and professional degree courses paid after June 30, 1998, for courses starting after that date. The credit is 20 percent of expenses, up to \$1,000 per return. Certain limits apply to both credits.

In addition to these credits, people can set up Education IRAs featuring nondeductible contributions of up to \$500 a year for a named beneficiary under age 18. And people can tap into their other IRAs to pay for qualified higher education expenses. Also, a limited amount of interest paid on higher education loans is deductible.

Some restrictions apply to each benefit.

Another new IRA is the Roth IRA. It features nondeductible contributions, with tax-free distributions if they begin after the fifth year the taxpayer has a Roth IRA, the taxpayer is at least age 59½ or disabled, or the distribution is a qualified first-time home buyer distribution.

New capital gains tax rules may reduce the tax owed on investments. The benefits of lower rates now apply to sales of property held more than one year instead of 18 months. Schedule D will take taxpayers step by step through the rates and rules.

The earned income tax credit (EITC) could be worth a few dollars, or up to \$3,756 for people with more than one qualifying child, up to \$2,271 for one qualifying child. For those with no children, the EITC could be worth up to \$341. The amount people can earn and still be eligible for the credit in 1998 is \$30,095 for those with more than one child, \$26,473 with one qualifying child, and \$10,030 with no children. People who aren't eligible for the EITC, but who claim it anyway, could be prohibited from taking it for up to 10 years.

Rules for getting installment agreements, offers in compromise and innocent spouse relief are now less stringent. And people who haven't been able to resolve their problems through normal IRS channels have a new toll-free line to a taxpayer advocate: 1-877-777-4778.

Social Security numbers will not be printed anywhere on the tax instruction booklets or labels, so people need to make sure they put their correct SSNs on their tax returns and other forms. And those who owe taxes can write their checks to the United States Treasury, but don't staple the check to the return.

Get details on these topics and more in the tax instruction booklets or in free IRS Publication 553, Highlights of 1998 Tax Changes. Call 1-800-829-3676 to order. Or check out the IRS Web site at www.irs.ustreas.gov.

Valley Flock Takes Five



With plenty of land and room to spare, a large flock of birds recently found hanging around the former site of Geneva Towers the "thing to do" during a late winter day.



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Cookware Company Sued for Deceptive Sales Tactics

A Wisconsin-based company that sells expensive cookware and water filtration devices in California under the name Royal Prestige is being sued by State Attorney General Bill

Lockyer and S.F. District Attorney Terence Hallinan to halt deceptive advertising and unfair business practices.

A complaint filed Feb. 17 against Hy Cite Corporation in San Francisco Superior Court alleges the company and two of its local distributors have been targeting the Hispanic community using high-pressure door-to-door

sales and scare tactics for the purpose of inducing them to purchase expensive pots and pans and water filtration devices. The suit seeks an injunction prohibiting the company from engaging in these practices, full restitution to the victims, and a minimum of \$1 million in civil penalties.

In the complaint, it is stated that Royal Prestige salespeople are using such deceptive tactics as posing as health department workers who aggressively question consumers about family health problems or express concerns with lead and other contaminants in the water. The salespeople then proceed to pitch Royal Prestige products as a means for preventing anything from cancer to high blood pressure to high cholesterol.

Salespeople have also been falsely been promoting Royal Prestige cookware as a "health system" and have been telling consumers that whatever cookware they are currently using will cause disease, including cancer and loss of memory. To sell their water filtration devices, Royal Prestige salespeople allegedly have told consumers that their water supply is contaminated with lead or other environmental hazards, and to support baseless claims have used a phony chemical test.

The complaint also charges the company with unfair business practices in the financing of the products sold. It states that, once the sale is made, consumers are induced into signing two confusing documents, including a credit agreement designed to hide the fact that a high interest rate of 21 percent will be charged. In addition, the complaint charges the company with various violations of state law that provides a "cooling-off period" which allows consumers to cancel home-solicitation contracts within three days of the purchase, and with abusive collection practices.

Health Champions at SFUSD Schools

San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) has partnered with California Pacific Medical Center and the Transamerica Foundation for the launch of a *Health Champions* program, promoting healthy lifestyles for children and families of San Francisco.

Health Champions will provide health screenings, physical and athletic activity plans, stress management, healthy body image workshops, nutrition and cooking classes, a mentoring project, and an organic gardening project to students at Treasure Island and Lawton Elementary Schools.

"At SFUSD, we strongly believe that a healthy student is key to active and effective learning," said SFUSD Superintendent Waldemar Rojas. "This program will dedicate additional resources to the advancement of the physical and emotional well-being of our students."

The program was developed by California Pacific Medical Center in collaboration with the SFUSD School Health Programs Department. Transamerica has donated \$1 million in the last three years to the project.

Community Lectures On Health Issues

St. Luke's Hospital is sponsoring the following *free* community lectures at 3555 Cesar Chavez St.

**Home Safety Class* takes place Thursday, Mar. 25 from 3-5 p.m. Call 641-6465 to register.

**Oh, My Aching Feet* with an emphasis on diabetic foot care will be held Saturday, Mar. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Call 641-6465 to register.

Spring Concert

The San Francisco City Chorus will present a concert of Johannes Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* (with soloists Karen Anderson and Paul Thompson) and *Gesange: Opus 17* on Sunday, Mar. 28, 3 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush at Gough Streets. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$10 seniors and students. Call 765-7664 for more information.

Rising Upward from the Ground



One by one, homes at the site of the Britton Street Housing complex are springing up from their foundations and should be ready for occupancy by late 2000.

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Wednesday Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.
Friday Cottage Bible Fellowship - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday Choir Rehearsal - 10:00 a.m.

YOU are cordially welcome to join us for study, worship, fellowship and service. We seek to teach the Bible and to lift up Jesus Christ so He can draw all persons to Himself.

COME TO CHURCH THIS WEEK

Visitacion Valley Community Beacon

Free Morning ESL Classes

Presently the Visitacion Valley Community Beacon offers a free multi-level City College non-credit English As a Second Language class from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Mondays through Thursdays. Some students want a lower level class. We want to know if there are 40 students in our community who will attend a beginning level class in the morning. If there are, we will try to offer a low-level class. If you know of someone or are interested yourself in a literacy/level 1 class (learning to read and write the ABCs in English, learning your first words and phrases in English) please call the Beacon at 415-452-4907.

For Cantonese, ask to speak to Frank. For Spanish, ask to speak to Jennifer. Make sure you give your name and phone number so we can contact you.

Clases Gratis de Ingles

A este momento El Centro Comunitario Beacon de Visitacion Valley esta ofreciendo clases gratis de Ingles del Colegio de San Francisco. La Clase consiste de multi-niveles de ingles y se reunen Lunes a Jueves de 9-11 a.m. Algunos estudiantes quieren un nivel mas bajo para aprender lo mas basico del ingles; por ejemplo el alfabeto, diferente frases/palabras, como leer/escribir y muchas otras cosas.

Para ofrecer esta clase necesitamos que 40 estudiantes se enscriban. Si ud. o alguien que conoce se quiere enscribir por favor liame a Jennifer al 415-452-4907 y deje su nombre y numero de telefono para contactarlo con mas informacion de las clase.

早上免費英文班

現時訪谷區培根中心正在提供免費的不同程度英文班(三藩市市立學院課程),此英文班的上課時間為星期一至四,早上九時至十一時半。而因有些學生表示希望能有英文初級入門班,所以我們想知這本社區內可有四十位學生在早上時間上英文初級班的街坊。若能集合到四十位學生的話,我們會安排增加英文的初級班。若您,又或是您的家人、朋友有興趣於英文入門班(學習書寫及閱讀英文字母、學習您第一個英文字和句子),請聯絡培根中心。電話號碼是415-452-4907

如用中文,可與黃先生接洽。如用西班牙語,可與Jennifer接洽。請務必留下您的姓名和電話號碼,以方便作日後的聯絡。

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

The John McLaren Child Development Center seeks in-kind donations for our newly created lending library:

Children's Books and Magazines
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Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity! Please send all donations to:
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2055 Sunnysdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134

Please call 469-4519 if you would like for us to pick-up any materials.

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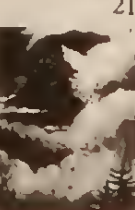







Cantonese Spoken

S.F. City Meetings

Aging-1st Wed 9:30 am; Airport-1st & 3rd Tu 3 pm; Arts-1st Mon 3 pm; Education-2nd/4th Tu 7 pm; Health-1st/3rd Tu 3 pm; Housing Authority-2nd/4th Th 4 pm; Human Rights-1st/3rd Th 4:30 pm; Library-1st Tu 5:30 pm; Planning-Th 1:30 pm; Police-Wed 5:30 pm; Port-1st Tu/3rd Wed 4:30 pm; Public Utilities-2nd/4th Tu 2 pm; Rec and Park-3rd Th 2 pm; Social Services-4th Th 90am; Status of Women-4th Th 4

Next Meeting of Visitacion Valley Task Force is March 27 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Community Center 66 Raymond Ave

March/April 1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14 	15 11 30a WVCC Senior Shopping	16 12 30 WVCC Senior Bingo 9 30a-4p Senior Ceramics	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 9a WVCC Sewing Class 	19 First Day of Spring 	20
21 	22 11 30a WVCC Senior Shopping	23 12 30 WVCC Senior Bingo 9 30a-4p Senior Ceramics	24 10 30a WVCC Senior Crafts	25 9a WVCC Sewing Class	26 	27 10 30a-12 noon Visitacion Valley Task Force Meeting 66 Raymond Ave
28 	29 11 30a WVCC Senior Shopping	30 12 30 WVCC Senior Bingo 9 30a-4p Senior Ceramics	31 10 30a WVCC Senior Crafts	1 9a WVCC Sewing Class April Fools Day	2 	3 
4 Daylight Savings Time Begins 	5 11 30a WVCC Senior Shopping	6 12 30p WVCC Senior Bingo 9 30a-4p Senior Ceramics	7 10 30a WVCC Senior Crafts	8 9a WVCC Sewing Class	9 	10 

An Award for Volunteer Work

by *Gery L. Galvan*

An active member of St James Presbyterian Church was recently awarded a four-star pin by the Blood Center of the Pacific for 4,000 hours of volunteer work at the blood bank since 1987.

Ruth Arvanites found time from her duties at the academic department of the San Francisco Unified School District to work at the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank on Stanyan Street in the City. She was always there during Saturdays and even holidays to help regulars in the campaign and collection of blood from donors.

Arvanites began volunteering at Irwin in 1987, and continued on after Irwin Memorial merged with Shasta Blood to form the Blood Center of the Pacific.

In appreciation of her devotion, the Blood Center of the Pacific treated Arvanites and three fellow volunteers to lunch at a downtown restaurant.

"I will continue to volunteer my service to the blood bank as long as I



Valley resident Ruth Arvanites can manage to move around and do something," said Arvanites.

Her enthusiasm in service is also demonstrated both in devotion to her church and SFUSD duties.

Ruth Arvanites is married to Jim Arvanites. They have three children: Phillip, Gregg and Cindy

GRAPEVINE WANT-ADS

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for WVCC After School Program. Volunteers are needed to tutor children ages 5-14 at one of our 11 sites in the Visitacion Valley area. Interested persons contact Dee Smith, WVCC After School coordinator, (415) 330-8557

Visitacion Valley Business Directory

Valley business and organization free listings in the 415 area code. Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300

AUTOMOTIVE

BAYSHORE GAS & SERVICE (mechanic), 2260 Bayshore Blvd. 467-6130

BAYSHORE SERVICE (mechanic) 2596 Bayshore Blvd. 239-5239

CHARLIE'S GARAGE (Charlie Awegh), 2550 Bayshore Blvd. 239-7450

GARAGE BY TOP RACING, 130 Leland Ave. 333-5938

MR. CLEAN'S CAR WASH (Morton Bradley, detailing) 2501 Bayshore Blvd. 468-8831

TW AUTOMOTIVE (mechanic), 2500 Bayshore Blvd. 585-8281

VALLEY AUTO & TRUCK SUPPLY (Bill Conte), 2520 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5880

BANK

BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave., 622-4501

BAKERS

CUNEO BAKERY, 96 Leland Ave., 239-6090

LITTLE OUIAPO BAKE SHOP, 169 Leland Ave., 239-2253

BARBERS

OEMASI'S BARBER SHOP, 35 Leland Ave.

THE SHOP (JB), 178 Leland Ave., 239-6709

BEAUTICIANS

ANGEL COIFFURES, 5 Leland Ave., 239-9891

MAY MAY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave., 337-9381

McCALL'S FOR HAIR, 3585 San Bruno Ave., 467-7319

MIZ RENAS SALON, 19 Blanken Ave. 467-3399

NAILS BY JENNY (manicunst), 50 Leland Ave., 333-6800

A NEW START HAIR STUDIO (Joyce Hollins), 224 Leland Ave., 584-3077

TAMMIE'S HAIR DESIGN, 3564 San Bruno Ave., 330-9635

BOARDING HOUSE

ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rutland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4683

CHURCHES

CHURCH OF THE VISITACION, 655 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5960

KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave. 468-1213

RIDGE VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 590 Leland Ave. 239-5457

ST JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave. 586-6381

VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 305 Raymond Ave., 467-6065

VISITACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St. 333-4503

CLOTHING

PRECIDUS BUNOLES (new/gently worn children's clothing, Michelle Falley) 91 Leland Ave. 337-8776

SPONA (designer fashions, Delores Logan) 9 Leland Ave. 239-9631

DENTIST

VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE (Albert Kuan, DDS), 37 Leland Ave. 239-5500

DEVELOPER

TUNTEX U.S.A., 150 Executive Park Blvd., 468-6676

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PACIFIC FISH & POULTRY, 2414 San Bruno Ave., 468-2355

More Than 400,000 Since 1997 Employed With Welfare to Work

From Page 1

mies have actually saved money by creating a welfare to work program.

*Twenty-seven percent of Partnership businesses are hiring welfare recipients into salaried positions (up from 19 percent in August 1998) at a mean salary of \$15,266 while 70 percent of Partnership businesses are hiring welfare recipients into wage jobs at a mean starting wage of \$6.86 per hour. Furthermore, welfare hires are gaining valuable experience in their first jobs and moving into better jobs with other organizations--60 percent of businesses report such movement.

*Eight out of ten (77 percent) companies hiring former welfare recipients hire them for "promotional track" positions. In fact, 91 percent of companies hiring former welfare recipients offer them opportunities for training that could lead to a promotion and 60 percent of businesses report some promotion of welfare hires--the same rate as standard hires among member companies.

Vice President Gore convened a

Glenridge Preschool Accepting Applications

Glenridge Co-Operative Preschool, located in beautiful Glen Park Canyon, is now accepting applications for Fall 1999 for children 2 9 to 5 years. Glenridge is a multi-ethnic, parent-participatory school and scholarships are available. For more information, contact Barbara at 584-9465.

town hall at the Bay Area Welfare to Work conference to talk about the results of the survey, a strong start to welfare to work in the Bay Area and the work that still lays ahead. He touted UPS, Bank of America, Pacific Gas & Electric, Clorox and Cal Insurance for their welfare to work programs.

The Bay Area conference is part of the Welfare to Work Partnership's City-Link campaign to mobilize the business community in cities with high concentrations of welfare recipients across the country to hire and retain individuals coming off the welfare rolls.

The goal of City-Link, which started in St. Louis on Aug. 12, 1997 and covered 30 cities, is to establish partnerships with local and state government, businesses and service providers to develop and implement creative local strategies for successful welfare to work initiatives.

"We know that businesses will continue to have new easy-level hiring needs as long as the economy stays strong," said Segal. "The results of the survey and today's conference show progress. But they both tell us that there will be new challenges and opportunities, and it demands a constant focus on partnerships between the Advisory Council utilize the survey results to shape welfare reform policy and support the businesses in their states with welfare to work initiatives."

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The Visitacion Valley Jobs, Education and Training Program (across from the site of the recently demolished Geneva Towers) is accepting TANF and GA clients for "Welfare to Work--Job Readiness Training"

So feel comfortable while you're learning to sell yourself into today's labor market.

Contact Ann or Mary at (415) 239-2866 or 239-2877

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TATE ELECTRIC (Joel Tate), 467-4657

FLORISTS

CUPIO FLORIST, 36 Leland Ave., 585-7766

IL FIORE FLOWERS, 2466 San Bruno Ave. 468-0145

GROCERS

A T & B MARKET, 2400 Bayshore Blvd. 586-4851

E-Z STOP MARKET, 2203 Geneva Ave. 585-9240

FIVE MILE MARKET, 3674 San Bruno Ave. 467-7300

K.C. MARKET, 400 Wide St. 467-3024

LITTLE VILLAGE MARKET, 1450 Sunnydale Ave. 586-1815

M & M SHORTSTOP, 2145 Geneva Ave., 585-0878

PICCOLO PETE (deli), 2155 Bayshore Blvd. 468-6800

SAMS OEU & LIQUOR, 25 Leland Ave., 239-7183

SARI-SARI FOODSTORE, 58 Leland Ave., 239-7183

7-11 (Manny DeLeon), 2200 Bayshore Blvd., 468-8646

SMITTY'S MARKET, 2610 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5506

TAUTUA MO OE (Samoan grocery, gifts, fabric), 15 Leland Ave., 585-0509

TEDDY'S MARKET, 298 Teddy Ave.

VALLEY SUPER MARKET, 65 Leland Ave., 239-7520

HERBS

KWOK HONG CHINESE HERBS, 57 Leland Ave., 585-8751

SAN ON HERBS, 33-A Leland Ave. 333-7469

LAUNDRY/CLEANERS

CITY WASH INTERNATIONAL, 83 Leland Ave., 333-9467

COIN WASH & DRY LAUNDRY, 186 Leland Ave.

FORTY-NINER CLEANERS (David Chan), 51 Leland Ave., 239-6418

LELANO AVENUE CLEANERS, 151 Leland Ave. 586-1412

LELANO LAUNDRY WORLD, 44 Leland Ave.

VALLEY LAUNDRY, 90 Leland Ave.

VISITACION VALLEY LAUNDRY, 108 Leland Ave., 239-9030

LEARNING

EARLY YEARS ACADEMY, 500 Raymond Ave., 333-1450

3-N-1 LEARNING ACADEMY, 240 Leland Ave. 584-8555

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY BEACON CENTER, 450 Raymond Ave. 452-4907

VISITACION VALLEY FAMILY SCHOOL, 325 Leland Ave., 585-9320

LIBRARY

VISITACION VALLEY BRANCH, 45 Leland Ave., 239-5270

LODGING

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SCHLAGE LOCK, 2401 Bayshore Blvd., 467-1100

MARTIAL ARTS

KARATE U.S.A., 38 Leland Ave., 469-9886

360 OEGREES MARTIAL ARTS, 2416 Bayshore Blvd. 585-6081

MEDICAL

AMERICAN RED CROSS, BAY AREA CHAPTER, 1704 Sunnydale Ave., 584-3620

HAWKINS VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC (Dept. of Public Health), 333 Schwenn St., Appointments 715-0310

PORTOLA FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC (Dr. Ouyang Patel), 2858 San Bruno Ave. 467-7500

ORGANIZATIONS

GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY, 1652 Sunnydale Ave. 584-4044

JOHN KING SENIOR CENTER, 590 Leland Ave. 239-6233

LELANO HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave., 405-2000

VISITACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave., 467-4499

PHARMACY

VISITACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave. 239-5811

PHOTOGRAPHER

WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St., 587-9471 fax 337-8620

PLUMBING

MARK VOELKER PLUMBING, 59 Arleta Ave. 467-7401

POST OFFICE

VISITACION STATION U.S. PO, 68 Leland Ave., 239-7520

PSYCHIC

MIRACLE CHILD (reader and advisor, palm, tarot, aura, confidential readings) 161 Leland Ave., 585-2192

RESTAURANTS

CLIFF'S BARBECUE SEA FOOD, 2177 Bayshore Blvd. 330-0736

G & L BAKERY AND RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave. 239-6283

HONG YUN RESTAURANT (Vietnamese), 73 Leland Ave., 469-5686

HSUN KUANG RESTAURANT (Chinese), 30 Leland Ave., (587-2763)

LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave. 585-1167

RUSSIA HOUSE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., 467-0252

SHIREL'S SOUL FOOD, 107 Leland Ave. 239-5141

TWO JACK'S RESTAURANT (seafood and burgers), 167 Leland Ave. 337-0433

SELF-DEVELOPMENT

DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Marjorie Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist) 467-7608

SERVICE PROVIDERS

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER, 251 Schwenn St. 469-2120

THE VILLAGE (community center), 333 Schwenn St. 239-5045

VISITACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND TRAINING (VVBEST), 120 Leland Ave., 586-9347

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, 50 Raymond Ave. 467-6400

VISITACION VALLEY FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER, 251 Schwenn St., 469-2120

VISITACION VALLEY JOBS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VJET), 333 Schwenn St., 239-2866

SERVICES

VALERIE HABEGGER-HYPNOTHERAPY, 371 Teddy Ave. 468-5631

JAOE HAIR PRODUCTS, 160A Leland Ave.

M-3 LOCKSMITH, 200 Leland Ave., 587-8403

ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE (financing), 46 Leland Ave., 333-4900

HENRY SCHINDEL (realtor), 239-5850

SILVESTRI GAROEN ORNAMENTS, 2635 Bayshore Blvd. 239-5990

SMITH'S SIGNS, 153 Leland Ave., 333-2700

VERNA WALLACE E.A. (bookkeeping) 2320 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5333

SHOE REPAIR

ARMANDO'S SHOE REPAIR (Armando Rosignolo), 156A Leland Ave. 239-7216

TAVERNS

THE CLUB HOUSE, 25 Blanken Ave.

OLIVIA'S PLACE, 2600 Bayshore Blvd. 239-7711

TRAVEL

COMET TOURS & TRAVEL, 168 Leland Ave. 333-2966

GAMMS TRAVEL SERVICE, 34 Leland Ave. 333-9282

VIDEO

SIN FUNG VIDEO, 144 Leland Ave. 586-1038

Condos at Executive Park



Just east of Visitacion Valley, foundation work continues on the initial phase of what will one day Saint Francis Bay Condominiums. The new housing is currently being constructed along Executive Park Boulevard at Harney Way.

Spelling Bee Championship at VVES



Judges in the contest were (rear l-r) Mr. Spearmon, Mrs. Hau, Ms. Washington, Ms. Davis. Grade level champions (front l-r) include: Andy Zheng (5th); Julia Shen (4th); Edward Chan (3rd); Terry De La Cruz (2nd); Jennifer Luong; and Andy Guan (K).

Congratulations are in order to all the school champion, Edward Chan (3rd grade) who will represent VVES and compete in the City-School (VVES) and best wishes to

MDA Issues Parent's Guide for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

The Muscular Dystrophy Association has published a new illustrated book, *Journey of Love: A Parent's Guide to Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy*, to help those raising children with DMD.

In his introduction to the book, MDA National Chairman Jerry Lewis tells parents, "MDA exists because it's dedicated to aiding families like yours."

Journey of Love is available free from local MDA offices to families with a member affected by Duchenne or Becker muscular dystrophy who is registered with the Association. Others can purchase the volume for \$15 from local MDA offices or from MDA, 3300 E. Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718, (520) 529-2000.

The comprehensive publication, with 180 pages, provides a rich variety of information, including sections on medical, social, educational and emotional issues.

It also contains an extensive list of resources and information about MDA's programs.

Dr. Leon Charash, chairman of MDA's Medical Advisory Committee, calls the guide a much-needed resource. "This definitive book is what every family living with Duchenne needs. We want parents to know they are not alone in the battle," he said, adding,

"It would be wonderful if all health organizations published books like this for those affected by specific diseases."

Duchenne (DMD) is the most common and most destructive childhood form of muscular dystrophy. It begins in early childhood, striking boys almost exclusively, and is usually fatal by the mid-20s.

Through its worldwide research program, MDA has discovered the genetic cause of DMD and is developing forms of gene therapy as potential treatments for the disorder. Across the country, thousands of youngsters with DMD are treated at hospital-affiliated MDA clinics.

The parent's guide describes the needs of boys with DMD for orthopedic equipment, physical and occupational therapy, cardiac and respiratory health care, medications and other medical interventions. It also delves into the child's emotional adjustment, effects of the disorder on other family members, help available through social service agencies and end-of-life issues.

Journey of Love presents the latest medical information about DMD and MDA's research on the disease. It also includes a list of the 230 clinics in MDA's nationwide clinic network, and addresses and phone numbers of some 180 local MDA offices.

Some sections may also be of interest to families affected by DMD's less severe variant, Becker muscular dystrophy.

Robert Ross, MDA senior vice president and executive director, in announcing the book's publication, said, "MDA continues to fund cutting-edge research that will soon lead to treatments and cures for neuromuscular diseases. In the meantime, we're committed

to providing wide-ranging assistance to families facing these disorders via many avenues, including this thorough parent's guide."

In 1997, MDA issued another book-length guide for caregivers, *When a Loved One Has ALS*, for those caring for people with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease). It's available from MDA offices for \$10.

A Final Installment The Hot Potato, Part 3

by Gerry L. Galvan

When 45 Democratic Party senators voted on Feb. 12, 1999 to acquit William Jefferson Clinton of the two articles of impeachment, no one was surprised. Many, however, were disappointed. Millions felt betrayed and couldn't come to grips with the inability of politicians to put principle above partisan consideration.

The 10 Republican senators who broke ranks and joined the Democrats in their choral chant to save Clinton weren't heroes. They were villains in a script which repeatedly chimed, "There's no way the House managers could corner 67 senators to cast a 'Guilty' vote each. It was a pleasantly sweet option to jump into a winning bandwagon and be assured of a pat on the back by a grateful perjurer who had escaped the proverbial hangman's noose by a sheer trash of decency and moral values."

Senators Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe of Maine both offered lame excuses. Rhode Island's John Chafee, Vermont's James Jeffords, and Pennsylvania's Arlen Specter stuck their tongues by their cheeks in rationalizing their pro-Clinton stand of voting to acquit the President on Article I. Seemingly unprincipled were an additional five Republican senators: Washington's Slade Gorton, Alabama's Richard Shelby, Alaska's Ted Stevens, Tennessee's Fred Thompson and Virginia's John Warner who joined the first five in acquitting the President on Impeachment Article II.

All 10 undoubtedly had their reasons. Maybe they didn't want to be caught hanging by the side of a wagon running full speed towards the cliff of by-the-Constitutional-two-thirds-vote-mandate.

President Clinton was a sure winner, by virtue of the unshaken determination of 45 Democratic senators ignoring a cry for justice and rejecting both evidence and arguments offered by prosecutors.

Perhaps, the American nation would be served better if Clinton was not convicted of his crimes. And per-

haps professional politicians would settle down from their overly greed for power.

Although the historic Feb. 12 vote should have been the last chapter in the Clinton-Lewinsky saga, it didn't turn out that way. Our world is still bombarded by political, ideological, psychological and sociopathic clichés which only paid pundits would care to hear.

More information about MDA is available by calling the Association's nationwide help line at (800) 572-1717 or checking MDA's Web site at www.mdaua.org.

Meanwhile, the liberal media has picked up the revolting notion that the Clintons, notwithstanding the scandal, are still on top of their game.

Consider the numerous Air Force One trips aimed at achieving political advantage for the Democratic Party. Consider also the premature and weird floatation of the idea that Hillary Clinton should run for a New York seat in the U.S. Senate.

By and large, the American people have lost their confidence in President Clinton as a leader. By the same token, they have become less respectful of Hillary for looking the other way as the evidence unfolded.

With the 2000 election still 20 months away, both Democrats and Republicans have already commenced their campaigns. And from the looks of things, the biggest chapter in the Clinton/Lewinsky saga may yet unfold.

Valley Task Force Meets in March

Visitacion Valley Task Force (VUTF) will hold its next regular monthly meeting on Saturday, Mar. 27 at the Community Center auditorium at 66 Raymond Ave.

In recent meetings:

*Bevon Duffy of the Mayor's Office recommended a PUC site at Campbell Avenue and Rutland Street would be most feasible in the relocation of Early Years Academy (EYA), soon to give way at 500 Raymond Ave. for construction of the new John King Senior Housing. Valley residents near the Campbell site have supported its proposed conversion, along with adjacent land, into neighborhood gardens, but were in disagreement with the City's sudden change in plans from an original agreement announced last July.

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66 Raymond Ave. 467-4499
Pat Crocker : Director

Friends of the Urban Forest Workshop Schedule

April 8 **The Changing San Francisco Landscape:** What was here, what happened to it, what we have now, what we want (Saving and restoring the remaining native plant communities, planting trees to beautify neighborhoods.) with Greg Gaar, California Native Plant Society.

May 13 **Diseases of Ornamental Trees:** Slides and discussion about identification, causes, and controls of tree diseases with Dr. Robert Raabe, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology, U.C. Berkeley.

June 10 **Wildlife in Our Urban Forest:** Trees as habitats, birds by the season, greenways with Alan Hopkins, Audubon Society.

Call Friends of the Urban Forest at 415 543.5000, ext. 108 for locations and times. There is a \$5 fee.

Crossword Solution
From Page 6

BOOK • DOME
FROG • BODER
NEED • RADIO
TRUCK • CRY
D • TEA
BI • ANO • N
US • OS • IZ
SHAME • ZACH
• HILZ • SUZ
SEAT • BZEN

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